

PROCIAC-D-6

D R A F T

16 September 1958

THIS PROPOSED PROCIAC LETTER WILL BE SENT TO:

Secretary of Labor
Secretary of Commerce
Secretary of Treasury
Secretary of Interior
Secretary of Agriculture
Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare
Director, International Cooperation Administration
Director, Advanced Research Projects Agency
Copy as well to PROCIAC members
Info copy to DCI, DD/I, Secretary IAC, LD/CR, OO/CD, OO/FDD

The Committee on Procurement of Foreign Publications of the Intelligence Advisory Committee was established to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in the coordination of such procurement. The Procurement Committee consists of representatives of the intelligence community and other appropriate components of the U.S. Government. In the interests of assisting both Government and private research programs useful to Government, this Committee has sponsored or initiated programs to improve the collection of foreign publications.

It is axiomatic that collection is of limited use when publications so collected are not known to have been received. They may have been already procured, in which case there is needless duplication; or, they may be in hiding, the well-kept secret of the individual who procured them, resting in some unused private repository. Our Government is spending large sums of money to announce the availability of foreign publications through the following, among others, well-known devices:

Library of Congress. Monthly Index of Russian Accessions.
Library of Congress. East European Accessions Index.
National Library of Medicine. Current List of Medical Literature.
Department of Agriculture. Bibliography of Agriculture.

These are cooperative ventures, in the sense that publications are reported as having been received by various libraries, and then indexed appropriately. We in CIA report all the foreign publications acquired that

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we can report to the Library of Congress. In addition, recent announcements of new programs by the National Science Foundation, Department of Commerce, inter alia, have stressed the importance of translations being readily available.

We request the active cooperation of each Federal Agency in this program. Specifically, we urge each Department to ensure that its foreign publications acquisitions are well reported through available media. We suggest further that Government travellers report to their respective Government libraries all the foreign publications they acquired on official trips. An equally important consideration in this matter is the timeliness of such reporting, both by the individual and his library.

Speaking on behalf of the intelligence community, I wish to express our sincere appreciation for your cooperation. Intelligence is only as good as the facts on which it is based. Foreign publications play an important role in providing us with these facts.

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Chairman

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